Water Policy Technical Advisory Group

Meeting Summary January 3, 2002 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Water Policy Technical Advisory Group Members

Melinda Moran, Town of Clarksville, Shelton Miles, CBR, Robert Royall, VA Water Well Association, Thomas Botkins, VMA, Thomas J. Roberts (*alternate*), VMA Smurfit Stone, Arthur Pertrini, Henrico County, Julie Beales, State Board of Health, Wilmer Stoneman, VA Farm Bureau, Mike Thacker, American Electric Power, Gerard W. Higgins, Blacksburg, Christiansburg, VPI Water Authority, Brian Ramaley, Newport News, Carol Wampler, State Water Control Board, Ward Staubitz, USGS, Samuel Hamilton, VA Agribusiness Council, Bill Cox, VPI-SU, Terry Reid, VA Section AWWA, Patricia Jackson, James River Association, Nikki Rovner, TNC, Frank Sanders, Shenandoah Valley/Winchester Public Utilities, David Paylor, Office of Natural Resources, Robert G. Burnley, Director Department of Environmental Quality

Discussion:

Discussion focused on revised draft legislation based on the following points of agreement among committee members:

- the state should be in the lead for water policy and planning, but the role of localities must be recognized
- localities should develop plans according to criteria established by DEQ
- regional plans should be encouraged
- the current group should continue looking at these issues and develop further recommendations.
- support for legislation authorizing DEQ to begin a rule making process according to the above.

General agreement was reached on legislation that would direct DEQ to continue to work with the committee to develop draft criteria and guidelines for future local and regional water supply plans by December 1, 2003. A preliminary state water resources plan will incorporate existing local and regional water supply plans and will be completed by December 1, 2003.

D. Paylor adjourned the committee and proposed that the next meeting be scheduled in the early spring after the completion of the 2003 session of the General Assembly. He also asked those committee members that represent organizations to begin working with their members now to identify issues and priorities for this water supply planning process so that they would be ready to move forward in March.